with high embankments and a good many bridges. You said that there is no stone available round about that area. Every hundredweight of stone will have to be carried by boats for miles. All these mean heavy expense ; and if we find there are more urgent things calling for money in the Public Works Department budget, this will have to stand over. But we can include it in our programme of work to be eventually carried out.

With regard to the District Registrar's office, you had better wait till the new public offices are built.

119. Needs of the Kottayam taluk, Group II.

MR. NARAYANA PILLAI RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Member, Kottayam taluk, Group II*) spoke first about the need for opening a dispensary in the Akalakunnam *pakuthi*, which was more than 39 square miles in extent and had a population of over 20,000 souls. As there was neither a dispensary nor an Ayurveda *vaidyasala* there, the people were suffering from want of medical aid. The nearest hospital was at Kanjirapalli, 15 to 17 miles away. Patients, especially women and children, experienced great difficulty in travelling such a long distance. Further, there was no good road between the above-said *pakuthi* and Kanjirapalli. In view of the above, a dispensary should be opened in the *pakuthi*.

The Ayurvedic system of treatment was not prevalent in North Travancore. There was an Ayurveda School with three classes in Ettumanur. It would be of great advantage to the students of the school if an Ayurveda *vaidyasala* be opened near by. It would also help the spread of the Ayurvedic system of treatment.

The Akalakunnam *pakuthi* was included in the jurisdiction of the Pampadi Police Station, which was 15 to 20 miles away, with the result that offences were on the increase in the *pakuthi*. The aggrieved parties found it difficult and inconvenient to travel such a long distance to prefer their complaints. The number of complaints filed in the Pampadi Police Station and the number of cases filed in the Magistrate's Court at Kottayam from the Akalakunnam *pakuthi* would justify the opening of a Police Station in the *pakuthi*. A Charging Station or at least an outpost should be opened there.

The *chira* near the tollgate at Ettumanur was very useful to the people for bathing and watering their cattle. It could also be used for irrigation purposes. But it was silted up. It should be repaired and improved.

A dam with sluices should be constructed across the Kattachira *todu*. It would facilitate irrigation of the neighbouring paddy lands which suffered from scarcity of water.

Till the year 1084 there was a Munsiff's Court at Ettumanur. But it was transferred to Kottayam. A Village Panchayat Court should at least be established for the region comprising Ettumanur and Atirampuzha.

The Registration jurisdiction over the Akalakunnam *pakuthi* should be transferred from the Sub-Registrar, Kidangur, to the Sub-Registrar, Kanjirapalli. The existing arrangement was made by the Director of Registration without consulting the local inhabitants. Kanjirapalli was nearer to Akalakunnam than Kidangur. A journey to Kidangur from Akalakunnam was very difficult, particularly during the rainy season when the journey had to be performed by the K. K. road, the distance along which was 40 miles, while the shortest route was only 20 miles in length.

Passing on to public works in the taluk, the member requested that the following works be undertaken:—

(1) Metalling the Ponkunnam-Palai road. Two years ago, a sum of Rs. 4,000 was provided in the budget for metalling the worst part of the road, but no money was spent for the purpose. The road was in a bad state and not properly maintained. It should therefore be metalled and more money allotted for its maintenance.

(2) Making fit for traffic the whole length of the road connecting the Kottayam-Kumili Road, 24th mile, with the Ponkunnam-Lalam road, 6th mile.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(3) The ryots' road running from the Ponkunnam-Palai road, 3rd mile, to Uravakkal should be taken over for departmental maintenance. A portion of it was maintained by the Government last year. It served as a relief road to the Kottayam-Kumili road.

(4) The ryots' road running from the Anikattkayyuri market to the Elampalli temple should be taken over for maintenance by the Government.

(5) The Kottayam-Aimanam road should be connected with the Kudamalaur road and extended as far as Neendur *prala via*, Kaipuzha and rendered fit for cart traffic.

(6) The ryots' road from Mattakara to Pothenchira should be connected with the Atirampuzha-Lalam road by extending the road starting from the 4th mile of the latter and leading to Punnattura and the whole length should be made fit for cart traffic.

(7) The Minachil river took a sharp bend at Chettikulamvatta *trikka*. During the rainy season, the place was very dangerous for navigation and many boats had capsized there. The course of the river should be straightened at this place.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Ramakrishna Pillai, you have given me a list of fourteen requests and I am afraid that it will not be possible for the Government to comply with all the fourteen in the brief space of twelve months. I therefore advise you to make out a list of four matters which you consider most pressing and most necessary and send it to the Chief Secretary. Then, I can assure you, the Government will give their careful consideration to that.

120. Needs of the Changanachery taluk, Group I.

MR. NAINAN SOURIAR (*Member, Changanachery taluk, Group I*) said that the Government were not paying adequate attention to the northern taluks of the State in the construction of roads. The following works in respect of the roads in his taluk were indispensable and should be taken up early and finished soon :—

(1) The Karukachal-Putupalli road should be made fit for cart traffic and two bridges, at Tottakad and Tommachery, should be constructed. The road would facilitate communication between Kottayam and Tenganal, Changanachery and other places. The total length of the proposed road was only six miles. The people from the above-mentioned places were at present forced to taking a long and circuitous path to Kottayam.

(2) The Vakattanam-Tottakad road, starting from the Tenganal-Putupalli road, should also be made fit for cart traffic by putting up a *chira* in the Pallikandampadam at Tottakad.

(3) The portion between Karukachal and the 16th mile of the Changanachery-Vazhur road was in disrepair. There were many ruts in that portion and consequently, it was quite unfit for motor traffic. It was a much frequented road and in fact the only road to the High Range from the Changanachery market.

(4) The Perumpanachi-Tottakad village road was very much used by the inhabitants of Tottakad, Kurumbanadam and other places for going to Changanachery. But on account of the absence of a cart road there, the people were experiencing great hardship. It would be of immense benefit to the local inhabitants, if the road be improved and converted into a public road and maintained by the Government. A bridge at Kadamchira *padam* and *chiras* at Vattuvayal *padam* and another in the field between the temple and the church at Tottakad.

(5) The road from the Kanjirapalli hospital to Mannarakayam was in a bad condition and should be repaired.

(6) The Kanjirapalli-Kunnumbhagam road should be metalled. During the rainy season, the road was miry and unfit for traffic. A bridge over the Mulaipilakkal *todu* should also be put up.

(7) Lastly, the road from Kanjirapalli Petta to Erattupetta should be improved and metalled.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly